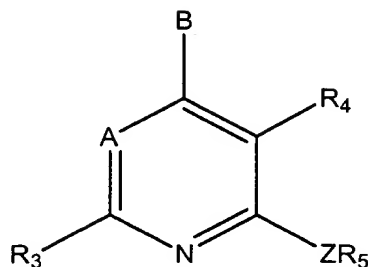


Claim 1 (previously presented). A compound of the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

A is N;

B is $-NR_1R_2$, $-CR_1R_2R_{11}$, $-C(=CR_2R_{12})R_1$, $-NHCHR_1R_2$, $-OCHR_1R_2$, $-SCHR_1R_2$, $-CHR_2OR_1$, $-CHR_1OR_2$, $-CHR_2SR_1$, $-C(S)R_2$, $-C(O)R_2$, $-CHR_2NR_1R_2$, $-CHR_1NHR_2$, $-CHR_1N(CH_3)R_2$, or $-NR_{12}NR_1R_2$;

Z is NH, O, S, $-N(C_1-C_2 \text{ alkyl})-$, $N(C(O)CF_3)-$, or $-C(R_{13}R_{14})-$, wherein R_{13} and R_{14} are each, independently, hydrogen, trifluoromethyl or methyl, or one of R_{13} and R_{14} is cyano and the other is hydrogen or methyl, or $-C(R_{13}R_{14})$ is a cyclopropyl group, or Z is nitrogen or CH and forms a five or six membered heterocyclic ring fused with R_5 , which ring optionally comprises two or three further hetero members selected independently from oxygen, nitrogen, NR_{12} , and $S(O)_m$, and optionally comprises from one to three double bonds, and is optionally substituted with halo, C_1-C_4 alkyl, $-O(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, NH_2 , $NHCH_3$, $N(CH_3)_2$, CF_3 , or OCF_3 , with the proviso that said ring does not contain any $-S-S-$, $-S-O-$, $-N-S-$, or $-O-O-$ bonds, and does not comprise more than two oxygen or $S(O)_m$ heterologous members;

R_1 is $C(O)H$, $C(O)(C_1-C_6 \text{ hydrocarbyl})$, $C(O)(C_1-C_6 [[$

$\text{[hydrocarbylene)(C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbyl), C(O)(C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbylene)}$
 $\text{)(C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbyl), C(O)(C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ hydrocarbylene)(C}_4\text{-C}_8$
 $\text{heterocyclohydrocarbyl), -C(O)(C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbylene)(C}_4\text{-C}_8$
 $\text{heterocyclohydrocarbyl), C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ hydrocarbyl, C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbyl, C}_4\text{-C}_8$
 $\text{heterocyclohydrocarbyl, -(C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ hydrocarbylene (C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbyl), C}_3\text{-C}_8$
 $\text{cyclohydrocarbylene)(C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbyl), -(C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ hydrocarbylene)(C}_4\text{-C}_8$
 $\text{heterocyclohydrocarbyl), -(C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbylene)(C}_4\text{-C}_8$
 $\text{heterocyclohydrocarbyl), or -O-aryl, or -O-(C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ hydrocarbylene)-aryl; wherein said}$
 $\text{aryl, C}_4\text{-C}_8\text{ heterocyclohydrocarbyl, C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ hydrocarbyl, C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbyl,}$
 $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbylene, and C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ hydrocarbylene groups may each}$
 $\text{independently be optionally substituted with from one to six fluoro and may each}$
 $\text{independently be optionally substituted with one or two substituents R}_8\text{ independently}$
 $\text{selected from the group consisting of C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl, -C}_3\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbyl,}$
 $\text{hydroxy, chloro, bromo, iodo, CF}_3\text{, -O-(C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ hydrocarbyl), -O-(C}_3\text{-C}_5$
 $\text{cyclohydrocarbyl), -O-CO-(C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl), -O-CO-NH(C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl),}$
 $\text{-O-CO-N(R}_{24}\text{)(R}_{25}\text{), -N(R}_{24}\text{)(R}_{25}\text{), -S(C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl), -S(C}_3\text{-C}_5\text{ cyclohydrocarbyl -}$
 $\text{-N(C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl)CO(C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl), -NHCO(C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl),}$
 $\text{-COO(C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl), -CONH(C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl), -CONC}_1\text{-C}_4$
 $\text{hydrocarbyl)(C}_1\text{-C}_2\text{ hydrocarbyl), CN, NO}_2\text{, -OSO}_2\text{(C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl), S}^+\text{(C}_1\text{-C}_6$
 $\text{hydrocarbyl)(C}_1\text{-C}_2\text{ hydrocarbyl) }^-\text{, -SO(C}_1\text{-C}_4\text{ hydrocarbyl) and -SO}_2\text{(C}_1\text{-C}_4$
 $\text{hydrocarbyl); and wherein the C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ hydrocarbyl, C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{ hydrocarbylene, C}_5\text{-C}_8$
 $\text{cyclohydrocarbyl, C}_5\text{-C}_8\text{ cyclohydrocarbylene, and C}_5\text{-C}_8\text{ heterocyclohydrocarbyl}$
 $\text{moieties of R}_1\text{ may optionally independently contain from one to three double or}$

triple bonds; and wherein the C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl moieties and C₁-C₆ hydrocarbyl moieties of R₈ can optionally independently be substituted with hydroxy, amino, C₁-C₄ alkyl, aryl, -CH₂-aryl, C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl, or -O-(C₁-C₄ alkyl), and can optionally independently be substituted with from one to six fluoro, and can optionally contain one or two double or triple bonds; and wherein each heterocyclohydrocarbyl group of R₁ contains from one to three heteromoieties selected from oxygen, S(O)_m, nitrogen, and NR₁₂;

R₂ is hydrogen, C₁-C₁₂ hydrocarbyl, C₃-C₈ cyclohydrocarbyl, C₄-C₈ heterocyclohydrocarbyl, -(C₁-C₆ hydrocarbylene)(C₃-C₈ cyclohydrocarbyl), -(C₃-C₈ cyclohydrocarbylene)(C₃-C₈ cyclohydrocarbyl), -(C₁-C₆ hydrocarbylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocyclohydrocarbyl), -(C₃-C₆ cyclohydrocarbylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocyclohydrocarbyl), aryl, -(C₁-C₆ hydrocarbylene)aryl, or -(C₃-C₈ cyclohydrocarbylene)(aryl); wherein each of the foregoing R₂ groups may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, fluoro, and C₁-C₆ alkyl, wherein one of said one to three substituents can further be selected from bromo, iodo, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, -OH, -O-CO-(C₁-C₆ alkyl), -O-CO-N(C₁-C₄ alkyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl), -S(C₁-C₆ alkyl), -S(O)(C₁-C₆ alkyl), -S(O)₂(C₁-C₆ alkyl), S⁺(C₁-C₆ alkyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl) [I⁺], I⁻, CN, and NO₂; and wherein the C₁-C₁₂ hydrocarbyl, -(C₁-C₆ hydrocarbylene), and cyclohydrocarbyl groups of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, cyclohydrocarbylene groups of 5 to 8 carbon atoms and heterocyclohydrocarbyl groups of 5 to 8 atoms of R₂ may optionally independently contain from one to three double or triple bonds; and wherein each heterocyclohydrocarbyl group of R₂ contains

from one to three heteromoieties selected from oxygen, $S(O)_m$, nitrogen, and NR_{12} ;

or when R_1 and R_2 are as in $-NHCHR_1R_2$, $-OCHR_1R_2$, $-SCHR_1R_2$, $-CHR_1R_2$ or $-NR_1R_2$,

R_1 and R_2 of B may form a saturated 5- to 8-membered ring which may optionally contain one or

two double bonds and in which one or two of the ring carbons may optionally be replaced by an

oxygen, $S(O)_m$, nitrogen or NR_{12} ; and which carbocyclic ring can optionally be substituted with

from 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, CF_3 , $-O-(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, $-O-CO-(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$,

$-O-CO-NH(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, $-O-CO-N(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})(C_1-C_2 \text{ alkyl})$, $-NH(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$,

$-N(C_1-C_2 \text{ alkyl})(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, $-S(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, $-N(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})CO(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$,

$-NHCO(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, $-COO(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, $-CONH(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, $-CON(C_1-C_4$

$\text{alkyl})(C_1-C_2 \text{ alkyl})$, CN , NO_2 , $-OSO_2(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, $-SO(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, and $-SO(C_1-C_4$

$\text{alkyl})$, wherein one of said one to three substituents can further be selected from phenyl;

R_3 is methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, methoxy, OCF_3 , NH_2 , $NH(C_1-C_2 \text{ alkyl})$, $N(CH_3)_2$, $-NHCOCF_3$, $-NHCH_2CF_3$, $S(O)_m(C_1-C_4 \text{ alkyl})$, $CONH_2$, $-CONHCH_3$, $CON(CH_3)_2$, $-CF_3$, or CH_2OCH_3 ;

R_4 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 hydrocarbyl, C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, $-(C_1-C_4 \text{ hydrocarbylene})(C_3-C_5 \text{ cycloalkyl})$, $-(C_3-C_5 \text{ cycloalkylene})(C_3-C_6 \text{ cycloalkyl})$, cyano, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, $-OR_{24}$ C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, $-O-$ cycloalkyl, $-O-(C_1-C_4$

hydrocarbylene)(C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl), -O-(C₃-C₅ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl), -CH₂SC(S)O(C₁-C₄ alkyl), CH₂OCF₃, CF₃, amino, nitro, -NR₂₄R₂₅, -(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbylene)-OR₂₄, -(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbylene)Cl, -(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbylene)NR₂₄R₂₅, -NHCOR₂₄, -NHCONR₂₄R₂₅, -CH=NOR₂₄, -NHNOR₂₄R₂₅, -S(O)_mR₂₄, -C(O)R₂₄, -OC(O)R₂₄, -C(O)CN, -C(O)NR₂₄R₂₅, -C(O)NHNOR₂₄R₂₅, and -COOR₂₄, wherein the hydrocarbyl and hydrocarbylene groups of R₄ may optionally independently contain one or two double or triple bonds and may optionally independently be substituted with one or two substituents R₁₀ independently selected from hydroxy, amino, -NHCOCH₃, -NHCOCH₂Cl, -NH(C₁-C₂ alkyl), -N(C₁-C₂ alkyl)(C₁-C₂alkyl), -COO(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -COOH, -CO(C₁-C₄ alkyl), C₁-C₆ alkoxy, C₁-C₃ thioalkyl, cyano and nitro, and with one to four substituents independently selected from fluoro and chloro;

R₅ is aryl or heteroaryl and is substituted with from one to four substituents R₂₇ independently selected from halo, C₁-C₁₀ hydrocarbyl, -(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl), C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, C₁-C₄ haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, -NR₂₄R₂₅, -NR₂₄COR₂₅, -NR₂₄CO₂R₂₆, -COR₂₄, -OR₂₅, -CONR₂₄R₂₅, -CON(OR₂₂)R₂₃, -CO₂R₂₆, -C=N(OR₂₂)R₂₃, and -S(O)_mR₂₃; wherein said C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₄ hydrocarbylene), (C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), (C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene), and (C₄-C₈ heterocycloalkyl) groups can be optionally substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₄ hydrocarbylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈

cycloalkyl), C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, hydroxy, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, nitro, halo, cyano, -NR₂₄R₂₅, -NR₂₄COR₂₅, NR₂₄CO₂R₂₆, -COR₂₄, -OR₂₅, -CONR₂₄R₂₅, CO₂R₂₆, -CO(NOR₂₂)R₂₅, and -S(O)_mR₂₃; and wherein two adjacent substituents of the R₅ group can optionally form a 5-7 membered ring, saturated or unsaturated, fused to R₅, which ring optionally can contain one, two, or three heterologous members independently selected from O, S(O)_m, and N, but not any -S-S-, -O-O-, -S-O-, or -N-S- bonds, and which ring is optionally substituted with C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, nitro, halo, cyano -NR₂₄R₂₅, NR₂₄COR₂₅, NR₂₄CO₂R₂₆, -COR₂₄, -OR₂₅, -CONR₂₄R₂₅, CO₂R₂₆, -CO(NOR₂₆)R₂₅, or -S(O)_mR₂₃; wherein one of said one to four optional substituents R₂₇, can further be selected from -SO₂NH(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -SO₂NH(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), SO₂NH(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -SO₂NH(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -SO₂N(C₁-C₄ alkyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl), -SO₂NH₂, -NHSO₂(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -NHSO₂(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -NHSO₂(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), and -NHSO₂(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl); and wherein the hydrocarbyl, and hydrocarbylene groups of R₅ may independently optionally contain one double or triple bond;

R₆ is hydrogen, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₆ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), or -(C₃

-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), wherein said alkyl and cycloalkyl may optionally be substituted with one hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy or fluoro group;

or R₆ and R₄ can together form an oxo (=O) group, or can be connected to form a 3-8 membered carbocyclic ring, optionally containing one to three double bonds, and

optionally containing one, two, or three heterologous ring members selected from O, SO_m, N, and NR₁₂, but not containing any -O-O-, -S-O-, -S-S-, or -N-S- bonds, and further optionally substituted with C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl or C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl, wherein said C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl substituent may optionally contain one double or triple bond;

R₁₁ is hydrogen, hydroxy, fluoro, ethoxy, or methoxy;

R₁₂ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl;

R₂₂ is independently at each occurrence selected from hydrogen, C₁-C₁₄ alkyl, C₁-C₁₄ haloalkyl, C₃-C₆ alkenyl, C₃-C₆ alkynyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, (C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), and (C₁-C₄) alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl);

R₂₃ is independently at each occurrence selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, C₂-C₈ alkoxyalkyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), aryl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)aryl, piperidine, pyrrolidine, piperazine, N-methylpiperazine, morpholine, and thiomorpholine;

R₂₄ and R₂₅ are independently at each occurrence selected from hydrogen, -C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ haloalkyl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)OH, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-O-(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)-O-(C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl), C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl), -C₄-C₈ heterocyclohydrocarbyl, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocyclohydrocarbyl), -(C₃-C₈ cycloalkylene)(C₄-C₈ heterocyclohydrocarbyl), aryl, and -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)(aryl), wherein the -C₄-C₈ heterocyclohydrocarbyl groups can each independently optionally be substituted with aryl, CH₂-aryl, or C₁-C₄ alkyl, and can optionally contain one or two double or triple bonds; or, when R₂₄ and R₂₅ are as NR₂₄R₂₅, -C(O)NR₂₄R₂₅, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)NR₂₄R₂₅, or -NHCONR₂₄R₂₅, then NR₂₄R₂₅ may further optionally form a 4 to 8 membered

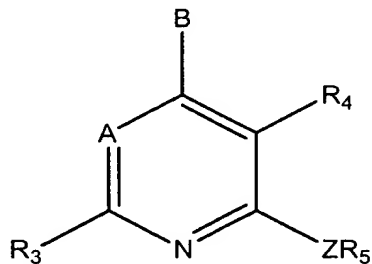
heterocyclic ring optionally containing one or two further hetero members independently selected from $S(O)_m$, oxygen, nitrogen, and NR_{12} , and optionally containing from one to three double bonds;

R_{26} is independently at each occurrence selected from C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_4 haloalkyl, C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl, $-(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene)(C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl), $-(C_3$ - C_8 cycloalkylene)(C_3 - C_8 cycloalkyl), aryl, and $-(C_1$ - C_4 alkylene)(aryl); and

wherein each m is independently zero, one, or two,

with the proviso that heterocyclohydrocarbylene groups of the compound of formula I, do not comprise any $-S-S-$, $-S-O-$, $-N-S-$, or $-O-O-$ bonds, and do not comprise more than two oxygen or $S(O)_m$ heterologous members.

Claim 2 (previously presented). A compound according to claim 1 of the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

A is N;

B is $-NR_1R_2$, $-CR_1R_2R_{11}$, $-C(=CR_2R_{12})R_1$, $-NHCHR_1R_2$, $-OCHR_1R_2$, $-SCHR_1R_2$, $-CHR_2OR_{12}$, $-CHR_2SR_{12}$, $-C(S)R_2$ or $-C(O)R_2$;

Z is $-NH$, O, S, $N(C_1$ - C_2 alkyl) or $C(R_{13}R_{14})$ wherein R_{13} and R_{14} are each independently, hydrogen, trifluoromethyl or methyl or one of R_{13} and R_{14} is cyano and the other is hydrogen or methyl;

R₁ is C₁-C₆ hydrocarbyl which may optionally be substituted with one or two substituents R₈ independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, CF₃, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, -O-CO-(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl), -O-CO-NH(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl), -O-CO-N(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl)(C₁-C₂ hydrocarbyl), -NH(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl), -N(C₁-C₂ alkyl)(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl), -S(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -N(C₁-C₄)CO(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl), -NHCO(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl), -COO(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl)hydrocarbyl, -CONH(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl), -CON(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl), CN, NO₂, -SO(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl) and -SO₂(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl), and wherein said C₁-C₆ hydrocarbyl and the (C₁-C₄)hydrocarbyl moieties in the foregoing R₁ groups may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond;

R₂ is C₁-C₁₂ hydrocarbyl, aryl or -(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbylene)aryl wherein said aryl is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, indolyl, or benzoxazolyl; 3- to 8-membered cycloalkyl or -(C₁-C₆ alkylene)cycloalkyl, wherein one or two of the ring carbons of said cycloalkyl having at least 4 ring members and the cycloalkyl moiety of said -(C₁-C₆ alkylene)cycloalkyl having at least 4 ring members may optionally be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by N-R₉ wherein R₉ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl; and wherein each of the foregoing R₂ groups may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, fluoro and C₁-C₄ alkyl, or with one substituent selected from bromo, iodo, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, -O-CO-(C₁-C₆ alkyl), -O-CO-N(C₁-C₄ alkyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl), -S(C₁-C₆ alkyl), CN, NO₂,

-SO(C₁-C₄ alkyl), and -SO₂(C₁-C₄ alkyl), and wherein said C₁-C₁₂ hydrocarbyl and the C₁-C₄ hydrocarbylene moiety of said -(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbylene)aryl may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond;

or -NR₁R₂ or -CR₁R₂R₁₁ may form a saturated 5- to 8-membered carbocyclic ring which may optionally contain one or two carbon-carbon double bonds and in which one or two of the ring carbons may optionally be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom;

R₃ is methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, methoxy, OCF₃, methylthio, methylsulfonyl, CH₂OH, or CH₂OCH₃;

R₄ is hydrogen, C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, trifluoromethoxy, -CH₂OCH₃, -CH₂OCH₂CH₃, -CH₂CH₂OCH₃, -CH₂OF₃, CF₃, amino, nitro, -NH(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -N(CH₃)₂, -NHCOCH₃, -NHCONHCH₃, -SO_n(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl) wherein n is 0, 1 or 2, cyano, hydroxy, -CO(C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl), -CHO, cyano or -COO(C₁-C₄ alkyl) wherein said C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl may optionally contain one double or triple bond and may optionally be substituted with one substituent selected from hydroxy, amino, -NHCOCH₃, -NH(C₁-C₂ alkyl), -N(C₁-C₂ alkyl)₂, -COO(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -CO(C₁-C₄ alkyl), C₁-C₃ alkoxy, C₁-C₃ thioalkyl, fluoro, chloro, cyano and nitro;

R₅ is phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, or indolyl, wherein each of the above groups R₅ is substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from fluoro, chloro, C₁-C₆ alkyl, and C₁-C₆ alkoxy, or with one substituent selected from hydroxy, iodo, bromo, formyl, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, amino,

-(C₁-C₆ alkyl)O(C₁-C₆)alkyl, -NHCH₃, -N(CH₃)₂, -COOH, -COO(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -CO(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -SO₂NH(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -SO₂N(C₁-C₄ alkyl)(C₁-C₂ alkyl), -SO₂NH₂, -NHSO₂(C₁-C₄ alkyl), -S(C₁-C₆ alkyl) and -SO₂(C₁-C₆ alkyl) , and wherein the C₁-C₄ alkyl and C₁-C₆ alkyl moieties of the foregoing R₅ groups may optionally be substituted with one or two fluoro groups or with one substituent selected from hydroxy, amino, methylamino, dimethylamino and acetyl;

R₁₁ is hydrogen, hydroxy, fluoro, or methoxy;

R₁₂ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl; and

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound.

Claim 3 (previously presented) A compound according to claim 2 wherein B is -NR, R₂, -NHCHR₁R₂ or -OCHR₁R₂; R₁ is C₁-C₆ hydrocarbyl, which may optionally be substituted with one hydroxy, fluoro, CF₃, or C₁-C₂ alkoxy group and may optionally contain one double or triple bond; and R₂ is benzyl or C₁-C₆ hydrocarbyl which may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond, wherein said C₁-C₆ alkyl or the phenyl moiety of said benzyl may optionally be substituted with fluoro, CF₃, C₁-C₂ alkoxy.

Claim 4 (previously presented) A compound according to claim 2 wherein R₁ is C₁-C₆ hydrocarbyl which may be substituted by fluoro, CF₃, hydroxy; C₁-C₂ alkoxy and which may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond.

Claim 5 (original) A compound according to claim 2 wherein R₂ is C₁-C₄ alkyl which

may optionally be substituted by fluoro, chloro, CF₃, C₁--C₄ alkoxy.

Claim 6 (original) A compound according to claim 2 wherein R₃ is methyl, chloro, or methoxy.

Claim 7 (original) A compound according to claim 2 wherein R₄ is methyl, -CH₂OH, cyano, trifluoromethoxy, methoxy, chloro, trifluoromethyl, -COOCH₃, -CH₂Cl, -CH₂F, ethyl, amino or nitro.

Claim 8 (original) A compound according to claim 2 wherein R₅ is phenyl substituted with two or three substituents.

Claim 9 (original) A compound according to claim 2 wherein R₅ is pyridyl substituted with two or three substituents.

Claim 10 (original) A compound according to claim 8 wherein said substituents are selected, independently, from fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, C₁-C₆ alkyl which may optionally be substituted with one hydroxy, C₁-C₄ alkoxy or fluoro group and which may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)O(C₁-C₂ alkyl), C₁-C₃ hydroxyalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, COO(C₁-C₄ alkyl).

Claim 11 (original) A compound according to claim 9 wherein said substituents are

selected, independently from fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, C₁-C₆ alkyl which may optionally be substituted with one hydroxy, C₁-C₄ alkoxy or fluoro group and which may optionally contain one carbon-carbon double or triple bond, -(C₁-C₄ alkylene)O(C₁-C₂ alkyl), C₁-C₃ hydroxyalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, -COO(C₁-C₂ alkyl) -(C₁-C₂ alkylene)amino, and -(C(O)(C₁-C₄ alkyl).

Claim 12 (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is 4-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-6-(2,4,6-trimethyl-benzyl)-pyrimidine; [2,5-dimethyl-6-trimethyl-phenoxy)-pyrimidin-4-yl](1-ethyl-propyl)-amine;

(1-ethyl-propyl)-[2-methyl-5-nitro-6-(2,4,6-trimethyl-pyridin-3-yloxy)-pyrimidin-4-yl]-amine;

(N-(1-ethyl-propyl)-2methyl-5nitro-N'-N= (2,4,6-trimethyl-pyridin-3-yl)-pyrimidine-4,6-diamine;

4-(1-ethylpropoxy)-2,5-dimethyl-6-(2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy)-pyrimidine;

N-butyl-N-ethyl-2,5-dimethyl-N'-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-pyrimidine-4,6-diamine; or

6-(1-ethyl-propoxy)-2-methyl-N4-(2,4,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-pyrimidine-4,5-diamine;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of one of the above compounds.

Claim 13 (previously presented). A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of (a) a disorder or condition the treatment of which can be effected or facilitated by antagonizing CRF or (b) a disorder or condition selected from inflammatory disorders, pain, asthma, psoriasis and allergies; generalized anxiety disorder; panic; phobias;

obsessive-compulsive disorder; post-traumatic stress disorder; sleep disorders induced by stress; pain perception; mood disorders, mood disorders associated with premenstrual syndrome, and postpartum depression; dysthemia; bipolar disorders; cyclothymia; chronic fatigue syndrome; stress-induced headache; cancer; irritable bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease; spastic colon; post operative ileus; ulcer; diarrhea; stress-induced fever; human immunodeficiency virus infections; neurodegenerative diseases, gastrointestinal diseases; eating disorder; hemorrhagic stress; chemical dependencies or addictions; drug or alcohol withdrawal symptoms; stress-induced psychotic episodes; euthyroid sick syndrome; syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone; obesity; infertility; head trauma; spinal cord trauma; ischemic neuronal damage; excitotoxic neuronal damage; epilepsy; stroke; immune dysfunctions; muscular spasms; urinary incontinence; senile dementia of the Alzheimer's type; multi infarct dementia; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; hypertension; tachycardia; congestive heart failure; osteoporosis; premature birth; hypoglycemia, and Syndrome X in a mammal or bird, comprising an amount of a compound according to claim 1 that is effective in the treatment of such disorder or condition, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 14 (previously presented). A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 for the treatment of a disorder selected from inflammatory disorders; pain, asthma, psoriasis and allergies; generalized anxiety disorder; panic; phobias; obsessive compulsive disorder; post-traumatic stress disorder; sleep disorders induced by stress; pain perception; mood disorders dysthemia; bipolar disorders; cyclothymia; fatigue

syndrome; stress induced headache; cancer; irritable bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease; spastic colon; human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infections; neurodegenerative diseases; gastrointestinal diseases; eating disorders; chemical dependencies and addictions; obesity; infertility; head traumas; spinal cord trauma; ischemic neuronal damage; excitotoxic neuronal damage; epilepsy; stroke; immune dysfunctions; muscular spasms; urinary incontinence; senile dementia of the Alzheimer's type; multi infarct dementia; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; and hypoglycemia in a mammal.

Claims 15 to 28 (cancelled).

Claim 29 (previously presented). A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_{24} and R_{25} are selected from $-CF_3$, $-CHF_2$, CF_2CF_3 , and CH_2CF_3 .

Claim 30 (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 13 for treatment of a mood disorder selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis, pain, asthma, psoriasis and allergies.

Claim 31 (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 13 for treatment of an inflammatory disorder selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis.

Claim 32 (previously presented). A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim

14 for treatment of depression, selected from the group consisting of major depression, single episode depression, recurrent depression, and child abuse induced depression.

Claim 33 (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14 for treatment of neurodegenerative diseases selected from the group consisting of Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and Huntington's disease.

Claim 34 (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14 for treatment of chemical dependencies or addictions, selected from the group consisting of dependencies or addictions to alcohol, cocaine, heroin, benzodiazapines, or other drugs.

Claim 35 (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14 for treatment of cerebral ischemia.

Claim 36 (previously presented). A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14 for treatment of immune dysfunctions induced by stress selected from the group consisting of porcine stress syndrome, bovine shipping fever, equine paroxysmal fibrillation, confinement dysfunction in chicken, sheering stress in sheep, and human animal interaction stress in dogs.

Claim 37 (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim

14 for treatment of fibromyalgia.

Claim 38 (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14 for treatment of anorexia or bulimia nervosa.

Claim 39 (previously presented). A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 44 for treatment of cerebral ischemia, selected from the group consisting of cerebral hippocampal ischemia.

Claim 40 (previously presented). A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 14 for treatment of social phobia, agoraphobia, or specific phobias.

Claim 41 (previously presented). The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 wherein the pain perception is fibromyalgia.

Claim 42 (previously presented). The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 wherein the ischemic neuronal damage is cerebral ischemia.

Claim 43 (previously presented). The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 for the treatment of depression or postpartum depression.

Claim 44 (previously presented). The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 wherein the ischemic neuronal damage is cerebral ischemia.

Claim 45 (previously presented). The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 wherein the mammal is a human.

Claim 46 (new) The compound of claim 1, where Z is NH, O, S, NC(OC)CF₃, or CR₁₃R₁₄.

Claim 47 (new) The compound of Claim 29, wherein Z is NH, S, NC(OC)CF₃, or CR₁₃R₁₄.

Claim 48 (new) The compound of claim 29, wherein Z is NH.